

## Birkrigg – Summer 2

Welcome to a new half term. Our topic this half term is '**Significant Individuals**'. We also have a school trip to look forward to later this month to Lakeland Maze Farm Park. This half term Mrs Edmondson has returned to be the class teacher on a Monday and Tuesday, and Miss Turner on a Wednesday afternoon, Thursday and Friday. Mrs Davies works with the children on a Wednesday morning.

### **Literacy**

Phonics continues to be taught first thing in the morning with Year 1 and Reception being taught separately. Reading books will still be changed on a **Monday** and a **Thursday** for both Reception and Year 1 children. When you hear your child read, please comment in their reading record as it really helps us. Reading books more than once improves the children's fluency and if there any questions in the back of their reading book, asking these will aid your child's comprehension.

In Literacy lessons, Year 1 will continue to consolidate their writing skills, thinking of sentences in their head before writing them remembering all our Year 1 writing rules. Part of our Literacy will link to our topic, but we will also read Zog and Zog and the Flying Doctors by Julia Donaldson. Reception children are enjoying their writing, and they will join in with these activities focusing on writing simple sentences that can be read by others.

### **Maths**

Like with Phonics, Maths continues to be taught separately to Reception and Year 1. As well as consolidating their key number skills, Reception children are going to extend their knowledge of doubling numbers, sharing and grouping, and recognising odd and even numbers. They will also work on some spatial reasoning activities such as following simple maps of obstacle courses and looking at photographs of familiar things that have been taken from unusual viewpoints.

The Year 1 children will extend their learning on place value to include numbers up to 100. Later in the term they have a unit on money, looking at coins and notes. There is also a unit on time, revisiting days of the week and months of the year before learning how to tell the time to the hour and half hour.

### **Science**

Our topic continues to be plants. We start by concluding our investigation to answer the enquiry question, do beans need water to grow? After this we will learn about trees, their basic structure and the differences between deciduous and evergreen trees. We will also think about changes that happen as Spring turns into Summer.

### **R.E**

This half term, we will explore special books. The children can talk about their favourite books and why they are special. We will then look at The Bible and special books in other faiths.

### **Geography/History**

Our topic is significant people, and we have started off learning all about Florence Nightingale.

### **PSHE**

Our topic continues to be 'Physical health and mental wellbeing'. We will carry on thinking about what it means to be healthy and why it is important and how we can take care of ourselves on a daily basis.

### **Music**

The children will continue to sing and use percussion instruments for simple composition work.

### **Art and Design, Design and Technology**

We are going to learn about weaving! We will start by practising some simple paper weaving. Then we will look briefly at the history of weaving and some artists that used weaving. We are going to try and design our own placemat using this technique!

### **Computing**

This half term we will continue to look at animation and programming.

### **PE**

We have two PE times, **Tuesday** and **Wednesday**. On Tuesday to begin with the children will practise some of the skills they might use on sports day. On Wednesdays the children will be working with Cam.

On PE days it is helpful if long hair is tied back, and earrings are removed or covered.

Weather permitting, Reception children will be able to use the bikes and scooters on the school playground and the whole class will get out onto the school field whenever we can.

Please can you ensure that your child always has a waterproof coat in school. A pair of wellies would also be very useful.

If you have any further questions, please feel free to come and speak to us.

Miss Turner and Mrs Edmondson